

# NATIONAL CAPITAL AFFAIRS

## Low Slums Near the Nation's Capitol



WASHINGTON.—Washington is not one grand succession of marble structures and beautiful parks. There are slums under the shadow of the capitol that compare in squalor with the East side in New York. The capital slums have the advantage over those in New York in being less extensive and in being composed of small houses instead of lofty tenements.

The Washington refuge of the very poor is sufficiently bad to have attracted the attention of sociologists and philanthropists and to have caused President Taft to demand their improvement in a message to congress.

This district is within ten minutes' walk of the United States capitol and has for one of its boundaries the botanical gardens with their wealth of

exotics. President Taft, in his message, made particular mention of Willow Tree alley, but it is no better and no worse than the others. Possibly the president mentioned only Willow Tree alley because it was the only one bearing a name that comports well with a state document. The other four are Pigtail alley, Tincup alley, Louse alley and Hell's Half Acre alley. These names, with the exception of Willow Tree alley, have the virtue of making any other description unnecessary. Why Willow Tree alley was so named nobody remembers. There may have been a willow tree there once.

The district is hard to find. It is within the outer crust of a block which has a rather fair exterior. A stranger, after fruitless search, appealed to a policeman. The officer pointed to a narrow opening between two buildings. "Go on in there, and you'll see all you want of it," he said. "It's a pest hole, it is. I'd go with you, but it's off my beat."

The officer was lucky. What the visitor found after he passed the portal of the slums would not be pleasant adjuncts to any beat.

## Uncle Sam Gives Facts About Fleas

THERE may be those who imagine it is an easy thing to kill a flea. But if they will read certain facts reported by the United States public health and marine service their minds will be disabused of the notion. The information is given in a pamphlet entitled "Notes on Agents for Flea Destruction." Fleas, it appears from these notes, survive all the usual means of insect assassination and others less common.

Obviously the flea is a hobo among insects, for one of his deadliest enemies is green soap. A flea dipped entirely in a tincture of green soap succumbed beyond resuscitation in two minutes; another ceased his movements in forty seconds and was dead in ten minutes; no fleas of any of the species examined survived the soap.

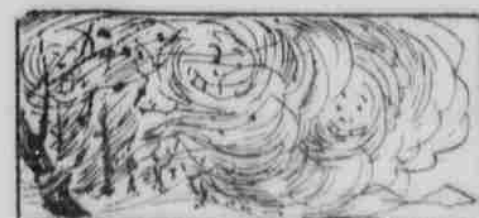
In a humane attempt to suit the tastes of the flea in the manner of dying the investigators tried oil of pennyroyal, oil of peppermint, kerosene, miscible oil, the refuse from the Pintsch gas tanks and many other chemicals. A flea left to swim in for-



mally, a powerful germicide and insecticide, was "apparently dead in 12 hours," but "revived," another kept for 20 minutes in a mixture of creosote, soap and water was still alive after fifteen minutes, but died five minutes after that.

It took 100 per cent. carbolic acid more than one minute to kill a flea; of two fleas that were made to swim in a one one-thousandth mercury chloride solution, a powerful germicide, one was alive after ten hours, the other after eighteen hours; powdered sulphur was practically inert and useless for killing fleas. Hydrocyanic acid is among the most powerful poisons, yet five fleas exposed for 45 minutes to hydrocyanic gas were alive at the end of the test.

## Cranks Offer Forest Fire Remedies



WHILE the field officers of the U. S. Forestry service are taking precautions against fire in the great national forests of the west, the forestry bureau is besieged constantly by "cranks" and real inventors, chiefly the former, who propose all sorts of ridiculous plans for coping with the flames. One of the most novel of these recently came from an eastern man who proposed that an artillery organization be formed in the forest service and equipped with huge mortar batteries, which would shoot grenades filled with chemicals.

This man's plan was to have a battery of these mortars hauled to a suitable hill near a forest fire, from which

the grenades would be discharged rapidly into the fire and, bursting, would smother the flames.

Another "crank's" plan was to construct huge screens of asbestos, which could be placed around trees near a fire and thus prevent them igniting. Of course this way did not attempt to explain how the problem of transporting these screens through rough mountainous country could be solved.

A third plan was to locate a number of huge sprinkling carts in each forest and drive them to a fire, turn on the water and, presto! your fire would be out—the inventor said. He was told to go to, unless he could provide a sprinkling cart big enough to tackle a fire such as raged last fall in Idaho, the flames of which mounted over 200 feet in the air and burned the ties off a railroad bridge, and at another point jumped clear across a valley half a mile wide, converting streams in its path into steam and cooking the fish therein.

Some men never reach the top because the elevator isn't running.

Be thrifty on little things like bluing. Don't accept water for bluing. Ask for Red Cross Bag Blue, the extra good value blue.

It's one kind of tough luck to strike oil when boring for water.

**BEAUTIFUL POST CARDS FREE**  
Send 3c stamp for five samples of my very choicest Gold Embossed Birthday, Flower and Motto Post Cards; beautiful colors and loveliest designs. Art Post Card Club, 781 Jackson St., Topeka, Kansas

Sunshine is worth more than gold, when it is real sunshine and not fox-fire.

### TOMMY MURPHY,

The great horseman who is winning most of the big races for fast trotters with that farm horse, "R. T. C." record 2:08 1/4, says: "SPOHN'S DISTEMPER CURE is the best remedy for all forms of Distemper and coughs I have ever known. I have used it a number of years." All druggists or send to manufacturers, 50c and \$1 a bottle. Spohn Medical Co., Chemists, Goshen, Ind., U. S. A.

### His Idea.

"An Ahkound is the best man of his kind, isn't he, pop?"

"I believe so, son."

"Then, pop, if I kill more flies than all the other fellows, I will be an Ahkound of Swat?"

### The Old Love Possible.

Mrs. Clarence H. Mackay, at a garden party at Hampstead, praised the working girl.

"How much nobler," she said, "to work than to marry for money. I know a pretty girl who gave up a good position to marry a man of sixty-eight."

"I am marrying for love," she told her chum.

"And the old fellow," said the chum, disgustedly, "is worth \$7,000,000!"

"Yes," was the reply. "It's the \$7,000,000 I'm in love with."

### Only a Moose.

"The modern woman isn't a bluff," asserted Mrs. Gobbolink, looking up from her newspaper. "This suffrage movement has more in it than mere ideas. The new woman is brave and fearless. Here is a story of a woman up in Canada who killed a mouse. It seems that she—"

"Impossible!" interjected Mr. Gobbolink. "There must be some mistake—read it again."

Mrs. Gobbolink searched out the paragraph and then blushed vividly. "How stupid of me," she stammered. "I did make a mistake. It wasn't a mouse she killed—nothing but a moose."

### FOOD AGAIN

A Mighty Important Subject to Every One.

A Boston lady talks entertainingly of food and the changes that can be made in health by some knowledge on that line. She says:

"An injury to my spine in early womanhood left me subject to severe sick headaches which would last three or four days at a time, and a violent course of drugging brought on constipation with all the ills that follow."

"My appetite was always light and uncertain and many kinds of food distressed me."

"I began to eat Grape-Nuts food two or three years ago, because I liked the taste of it, and I kept on because I soon found it was doing me good."

"I eat it regularly at breakfast, frequently at luncheon, and again before going to bed—and have no trouble in 'sleeping on it.' It has relieved my constipation, my headaches have practically ceased, and I am in better physical condition at the age of 63 than I was at 40."

"I give Grape-Nuts credit for restoring my health, if not saving my life, and you can make no claim for it too strong for me to endorse." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek Mich.

Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs. "There's a reason."

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.

### Simple.

"And what do you sailors do when you get homesick?"  
"We goes to sea again, mam."

### One Explanation.

"Say, Pa, what does it mean when it says the Supreme Court dissolved a trust?"

"Well, my son, you see, hum—ha—that's a sort of solution of the trust question."

"Does it fix it so there isn't any trust any more, Pa?"

"Well, my son, when you dissolve a lump of sugar in water the sugar is still there, but you can't see it."

### HOMESEEKERS' EXCURSION RATES TO TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO POINTS DURING 1911.

On the first and third Tuesdays of each month during the entire year The Colorado and Southern Railway will sell round trip homeseekers' excursion tickets to a great many points in New Mexico and Texas at greatly reduced rates. Final limit 25 days allowing liberal stop-over privileges. For detailed information, rates, etc., call on your nearest Colorado and Southern agent or address T. E. Fisher, General Passenger Agent, Denver, Colo.

### HOWARD E. BURTON, ASSAYER & CHEMIST

LEADVILLE, COLORADO.  
Specimen prices: Gold, silver, lead, \$1; gold, silver, 75c; gold, 50c; zinc or copper, \$1. Mailing envelopes and full price list sent on application. Control and umpire work solicited. Reference: Carbonate National Bank

## DENVER DIRECTORY

BON I. LOOK Dealer in all kinds of MER-  
CHANDISE. Mammoth cata-  
log mailed free. Cor. 16th & Blake, Denver.

## NO LIMIT

To Number of Entries for Each Person  
in this Prize Contest.

**\$50 For the Best Trademark**  
**\$25 For the Best Motto**

Entry in each class will be selected which best advertises this strong, growing, vigorous, western company, which writes a liberal life insurance policy, containing accident and health features, and which invests its funds TO HELP THE WEST.

Contest closes Sept. 30.

**C. M. REICH, Boulder, Colo., Gen. Agt.**  
**Continental Life Insurance & Investment Company**  
W. H. Cunningham,  
General Manager  
McCormick Block, Salt Lake City

### COLORADO SCHOOL LANDS AT PUBLIC AUCTION.

Colorado's State Land Board will sell 8,000 acres of excellent irrigated fruit and farm lands in Montezuma Valley, October 5th-12th, 1911, at Cortez, Colorado. Payments will be distributed over fourteen years.

A rate of one fare for the round trip will be in effect from all stations in Colorado, via

**The Denver & Rio Grande Railroad.**

Tickets on sale September 30th, October 1st, 2d and 3d from all main line points Denver to Grand Junction, Inc. From all other points October 1st, 2d, 3d and 4th. Final return limit October 20th.

For full particulars, apply to NEAREST RIO GRANDE AGENT or Frank A. Wadleigh, General Passenger Agent, Denver, Colo.

### LOW COLONIST RATES

via  
**THE DENVER & RIO GRANDE RAILROAD**

"The Scenic Line of the World."  
September 15th to October 15th, 1911, inclusive—\$25.00

From Denver, Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Canon City, Leadville, Glenwood Springs, Delta, Grand Junction, Gunnison, Montrose, and all intermediate points. Reduced rates are also authorized from other points in Colorado and New Mexico to San Francisco, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Diego, Bakersfield, Fresno, San Jose, Santa Barbara, Redding, Marysville and all points on main line of Western Pacific, Southern Pacific and San Pedro Rys., and to Portland, Ore., Tacoma, Seattle, Wash., Vancouver, Victoria, B. C., and other points in same territory.

Stopovers of five days will be allowed on the D. & R. G. R. R. at and west of Canon City and at Elko, Reno, Las Vegas, Lovelock, Shafter, Winnemucca, Nev., and all points in California, at all points on the Great Northern and Northern Pacific at and west of Billings, at all points on the O. S. L. and O. W. R. & N., Pocatello and west, and at all points on Southern Pacific between Portland, Ore., and Weed, Cal.

Daily lines of Pullman Tourist Sleeping Cars will leave Denver via Denver & Rio Grande, running through to San Francisco and Los Angeles without change.

Electric-lighted Tourist Sleeping Cars to San Francisco via Salt Lake City and Western Pacific Railway.

Open-top Observation Cars through the canyons; seats free.

For information regarding train service, reservations, etc., call on local Rio Grande Agent or address Frank A. Wadleigh, General Passenger Agent, Denver, Colo.